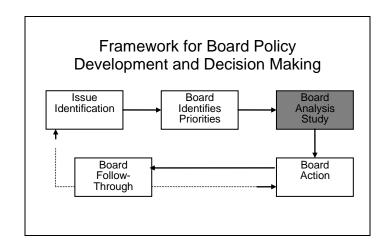
## Iowa State Board of Education

## **Executive Summary**

January 27, 2011



Agenda Item: Online Learning

**lowa Goals:** All K-12 students will achieve at a high level.

**Equity Impact** 

**Statement:** Online learning increases equity by providing access to

quality instruction and learning resources for students

across the state.

**Presenters:** Gwen Wallace Nagel, Consultant

Iowa Learning Online

Division of PK-12 Education

Kevin Fangman, Administrator Division of PK-12 Education

Attachments: None

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board hear and discuss

this information.

**Background:** One of the policy development priorities identified by the

State Board of Education is "Online Learning." There are many benefits to be realized from increasing access to online learning opportunities for students and teachers in lowa. It facilitates personalized learning and equalized opportunities by allowing lowa students access to quality instruction, a vast array of courses, real-world experts, and an endless wealth of online resources no matter where they live in the state. It supports competency-based education by allowing students to work toward mastery of essential concepts and skills at their own

pace.

The Iowa Department of Education has been supporting online learning opportunities for students and teachers, primarily through Iowa Learning Online. There are also many other pockets of online activities developing in Iowa. In order to expand and flourish, Iowa's PK-20 education system needs to ensure that teachers are prepared to utilize this new online environment; that online content is high quality and rigorous; that students have equitable access to online courses; and that local districts receive support regarding infrastructure and implementation plans for online activities.

During this session, information will be shared about various models of online learning (including the Florida model), and what it would take to implement these types of programs in Iowa.